

## Message Text

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12

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SUBJ: OAU SUMMIT CONFERENCE

EXCERPTS FROM COPY OF SPEECH OF PRESIDENT SIYAD AT THE OPENING  
CEREMONY OF THE 11TH SESSION OF THE OAU SUMMIT CONFERENCE  
JUNE 12, 1974 AT PEOPLE'S HALL, MOGADISCIO, SOMALIA.

(BEGIN EXCERPTS):

SOMALI-ETHIOTIAN DISPUTE

...ONE OF THE MOST UNFORTUNATE ASPECTS OF THE COLONIAL PERIOD  
AS FAR AS THE SOMALIS ARE CONCERNED, HAS BEEN AMONG OTHERS  
THE TERRITORIAL DISPUTE WITH ETHIOPIA. THIS LONG STANDING  
PROBLEM BETWEEN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA HAS ENGAGED THE ATTENTION  
OF THE OAU ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE  
AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT IN ADDIS ABABA A SPECIAL  
COMMITTEE OF EIGHT HEADS OF STATE WAS APPOINTED IN CONNECTION  
WITH THIS ISSUE. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THROUGH MEDIATION  
AND DIALOGUE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE OAU, AN APPROPRIATE  
SOLUTION WILL BE FOUND FOR THIS DISPUTE THEREBY OPENING UP  
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NEW VISTAS OF COOPERATION IN THE HORN OF AFRICA. THE GOVERN-

MENT OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC HAS FULL CONFIDENCE IN  
THIS COMMITTEE AND HAS GIVEN ITS FULL COOPERATION TO IT...

#### SOUTHERN AFRICA

THE PROSPECT OF INDEPENDENCE FOR PORTUGUESE COLONIES AUGURS  
WELL FOR THE TOTAL LIBERATION OF AFRICA. IT MEANS THAT THE  
NOOSE IS CLOSING AROUND THE NECK OF THE WHITE MINORITY REGIMES  
IN SOUTH AFRICA. THE INEVITABLE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THEM AND  
INDEPENDENT AFRICA HAS NOW BECOME STARK NAKED. WE HAVE TO FACE  
UP TO THIS CONFRONTATION...THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OAU FORCE  
IS THE ONLY ANSWER. WE CAN START BY IMMEDIATELY AND PERMANENTLY  
PLACING CERTAIN UNITS OF OUR ARMIES AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE OAU  
AND THE ALLOCATION OF OAU BUDGETARY PROVISIONS FOR SUCH FORCES  
IN TIMES OF MOBILIZATION...

#### MIDDLE EAST

...WE ALL KNOW THERE HAS BEEN A DRAMATIC CHANGE IN THE MIDDLE  
EAST SITUATION. THE ARABS HAVE BROKEN THE BACK OF ZIONIST  
ARROGANCE AND AGGRESSION BY THEIR VICTORY OVER ISRAEL IN THE  
OCTOBER WAR AND THEIR DIPLOMATIC TRIUMPH HAS EARNED THE SUPPORT  
OF THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD FOR THEIR JUST CAUSE. THE CONCLUSION  
OF CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENTS BY THE ARAB REPUBLICS OF EGYPT AND  
SYRIA WITH ISRAEL CONSTITUTES A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION BUT  
THIS BY NO MEANS ENSURES THE ATTAINMENT OF LASTING PEACE IN  
THE AREA. WHILE THE EFFORTS FOR PEACE MADE BY THE SUPPER POWERS  
INVOLVED IN THE MIDDLE EAST DESERVE ENCOURAGEMENT THE SINCERITY  
OF THEIR INTENTIONS CAN ONLY BE JUDGED BY THE OUTCOME. ITS  
CONTINUED OCCUPATION BY ISRAEL OF ARAB TERRITORIES, THE  
DENIAL OF THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, AND THE LATEST  
BARBARIC AND INDISCRIMINATORY BOMBING OF CIVILIAN POPULATION IN  
LEBANON BY ISRAELI WAR PLANES DO NOT AUGUR WELL FOR CHANGE OF  
HEARTS. IF FINAL PEACE IS TO BE ACHIEVED IN THE AREA, ISRAEL  
MUST WITHDRAW FROM ALL ARAB TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967 AND THE  
LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE RECOGNIZED...

#### INDIAN OCEAN

FINALLY, I CANNOT LEAVE DISCUSSION OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
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WITHOUT DRAWING ATTENTION TO THE PRESENT SITUATION IN THE  
INDIAN OCEAN. WE ARE EXTREMELY PERTURBED BY THE GROWING ACT-  
IVITY OF NATO FLEETS IN THE AREA AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NAVAL  
BASES IN DIEGO GARCIA. THE INDIAN OCEAN HAS BEEN DECLARED A  
ZONE OF PEACE AND SHOULD REMAIN SO. WE THEREFORE, CALL UPON  
THE IMPERIALIST POWERS TO REFRAIN FROM THE CREATION OF ANY  
BASES IN THIS ZONE AND THE IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF ANY THAT HAVE  
ALREADY BEEN ESTABLISHED. END EXCERPTS.

COMMENT: SOMALI PRESIDENT SIYAD ELECTED NEW CHAIRMAN OF OAU  
CONFERENCE.  
MACK

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